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men in the service for temporary duty for the education of these men and give them one month or two months of lectures, and without disorganization we could give our surgeons the absolutely necessary instruction and all around service we have been trying to develop in a more or less haphazard way.

#### THE INTERALLIED SCIENTIFIC FOOD COMMISSION

At an interallied conference, which was held last November in Paris, it was agreed, according to the *British Medical Journal*, that a Scientific Food Committee should be formed containing two delegates from each of the following countries: Great Britain, France, Italy and America. This committee was to have its permanent seat in Paris, and was to meet periodically in order to examine, from the scientific point of view, the interallied program for food supplies. It was empowered to make any propositions to the allied governments which it thought fit. The delegates appointed from the various countries were: Great Britain: Professor E. H. Starling and Professor T. B. Wood; France: Professor Ch. Richet and Professor E. Gley; Italy: Professor Bottazzi and Professor Pagliani; America: Professor R. H. Chittenden and Professor Graham Lusk. The first meeting of this Commission was held in Paris on March 25, and the following days. At their first sitting the commission was received by M. Victor Boret, minister of agriculture and food. In his opening address M. Boret pointed out that the object of the conference was to study the best means of utilizing the very small food resources at the disposal of the allies so as to effect an equitable distribution of the available food supplies among the allies, having proper regard to the facts of physiology and political economy. He sketched shortly the work of the commission, and his suggestions were embodied later in a series of questions which were adopted by the commission as the problems that would immediately occupy its attention. The commission agreed to establish a permanent central secretariat in Paris, M. Alquier being appointed secretary. In addition to the central secretariat it was agreed that a secretary to the commission should be

appointed in each of the allied countries. At its meetings, which lasted till March 29, the commission considered many important questions relating to the minimum food requirements of man, and to the production and distribution of food supplies. The commission will reassemble at intervals, in Paris or in some other of the allied capitals. Professor Gley has stated that it will probably meet next at Rome towards the end of this month.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR DUGALD C. JACKSON, of the department of electrical engineering of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been called to France as a major in the Engineer Reserve Corps.

PROFESSOR PHILIP B. WOODWORTH, dean of electrical engineering of Lewis Institute, Chicago, has entered the government service as a major in the aviation section of the Signal Corps.

DR. H. E. WELLS, professor of chemistry at Washington and Jefferson College, has been commissioned captain in the Chemical Service Section of the National Army.

DR. GEORGE WINCHESTER, professor of physics of Washington and Jefferson College, has been commissioned first lieutenant in the aviation section of the Signal Corps, and is now in France.

MR. LAWRENCE ERICKSON has resigned an instructorship in botany in the New York State College of Agriculture and has enlisted in the Coast Artillery.

DR. LEWIS KNUDSON, professor of botany in the New York State College of Agriculture, has obtained a leave of absence and is now in Y. M. C. A. work in France.

CALVIN H. CROUCH, who for seventeen years has been at the head of the mechanical engineering in the University of North Dakota, has accepted a position at Mt. Holyoke, Mass., with the Deane Plant of the Worthington Pump and Machinery Corporation, which is making war material for the government.

J. ANSEL BROOKS, professor of mechanics and mechanical drawing at Brown University, has